



News Release

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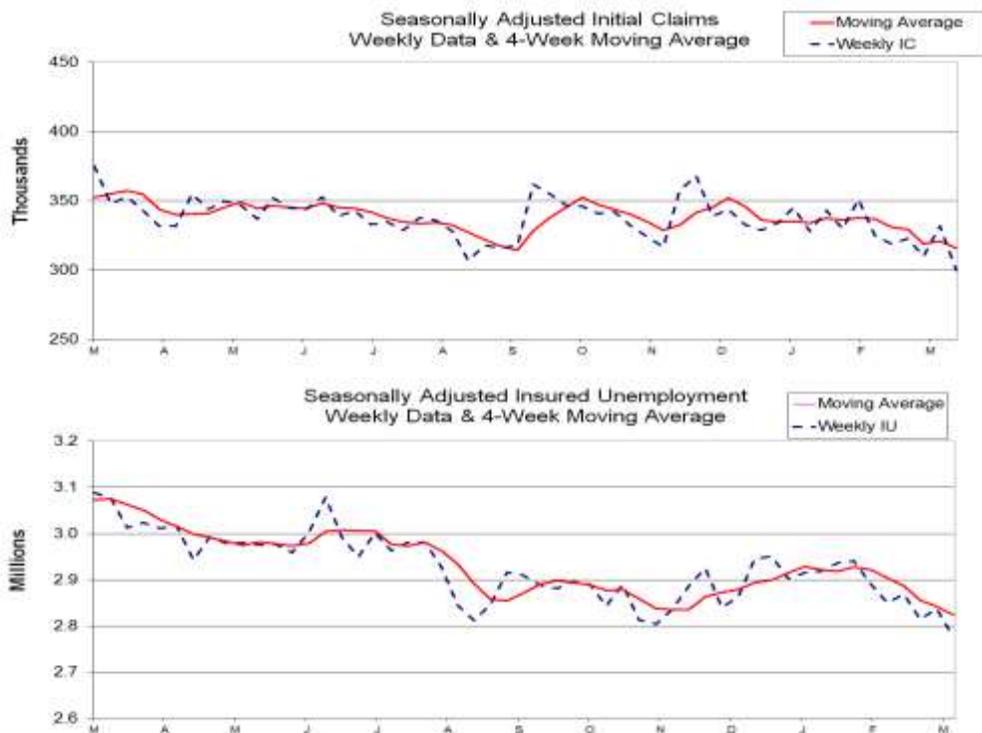
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending April 5, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 300,000, a decrease of 32,000 from the previous week's revised level. The last time initial claims were this low was May 12, 2007 when they were 297,000. The previous week's level was revised up by 6,000 from 326,000 to 332,000. The 4-week moving average was 316,250, a decrease of 4,750 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 1,500 from 319,500 to 321,000.

There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims.

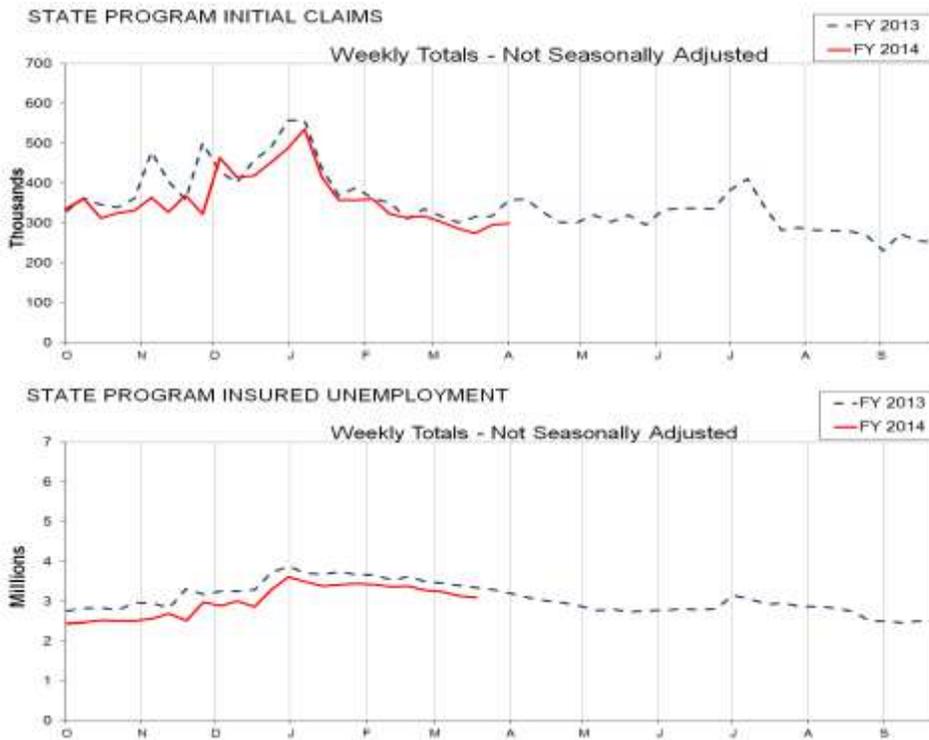
The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 2.1 percent for the week ending March 29, a decrease of 0.1 percent from the previous week's unrevised rate of 2.2 percent. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending March 29 was 2,776,000, a decrease of 62,000 from the previous week's revised level. The last time insured unemployment was this low was when they were January 19, 2008 when it was 2,770,000. The previous week's level was revised up 2,000 from 2,836,000 to 2,838,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,824,250, a decrease of 18,500 from the previous week's revised average. The last time this average was this low was February 9, 2008 when it was 2,817,750. The previous week's average was revised up by 500 from 2,842,250 to 2,842,750.



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 298,393 in the week ending April 5, an increase of 3,531 (or 1.2 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 34,865 (or 11.8 percent) from the previous week. There were 356,935 initial claims in the comparable week in 2013.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 2.3 percent during the week ending March 29, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,969,994, a decrease of 120,671 (or -3.9 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected a decrease of 53,923 (or -1.7 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 2.6 percent and the volume was 3,286,211.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending March 22 was 3,164,203, a decrease of 37,301 from the previous week. There were 5,270,782 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2013.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending March 22.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 1,030 in the week ending March 29, an increase of 34 from the prior week. There were 1,749 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 53 from the preceding week.

There were 18,171 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending March 22, a decrease of 73 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 27,977, an increase of 679 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending March 22 were in Alaska (5.2), New Jersey (3.9), Connecticut (3.7), California (3.6), Rhode Island (3.6), Illinois (3.5), Pennsylvania (3.5), Puerto Rico (3.4), Massachusetts (3.2), Montana (3.1), Wisconsin (3.1), and Maine (3.0).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending March 29 were in California (+17,626), Oregon (+1,851), Ohio (+1,200), Kentucky (+1,119), and Illinois (+941), while the largest decreases were in Pennsylvania (-2,007), Texas (-1,821), Missouri (-889), New Jersey (-774), and Puerto Rico (-538).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	Advance April 5	March 29	Change	March 22	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Initial Claims (SA)	300,000	332,000	-32,000	310,000	348,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	298,393	294,862	+3,531	274,072	356,935
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	316,250	321,000	-4,750	319,250	355,000
WEEK ENDING	Advance March 29	March 22	Change	March 15	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,776,000	2,838,000	-62,000	2,814,000	3,089,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,969,994	3,090,665	-120,671	3,132,104	3,286,211
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,824,250	2,842,750	-18,500	2,855,750	3,072,500
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	2.1%	2.2%	-0.1	2.1%	2.4%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	2.3%	2.4%	-0.1	2.4%	2.6%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 29	March 22	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	1,030	996	+34	1,140
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	1,749	1,802	-53	2,146

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	March 22	March 15	Change	<u>Prior Year</u>¹
Regular State	3,084,534	3,127,041	-42,507	3,335,737
Federal Employees	18,171	18,244	-73	19,680
Newly Discharged Veterans	27,977	27,298	+679	38,006
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	47	34	+13	437
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	10,520	10,297	+223	5,780
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	22,954	18,590	+4,364	33,588
<u>TOTAL</u> ⁶	3,164,203	3,201,504	-37,301	5,270,782

FOOTNOTES

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 130,938,360 as denominator.
3. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
4. Some states maintain additional benefit programs for those claimants who exhaust regular, extended and emergency benefits. Information on states that participate, and the extent of benefits paid, can be found starting on page 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-9 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
6. Prior Year Total includes Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) claimants.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 29, 2014

STATES WITH AN DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
PA	-2,007	Fewer layoffs in the food service and construction industries.
TX	-1,821	Fewer layoffs in the manufacturing, support services, and information industries.

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	+17,626	Layoffs in the service industry.
OR	+1,851	No comment.
OH	+1,200	Layoffs in the manufacturing and information industries.
KY	+1,119	No comment.

Seasonally Adjusted US UI Weekly Claims Time Series

Week Ending	SA	Change	4-Week	SA	Change	4-Week	IUR
	Initial	from		Insured	from		
	Claims	Prior	Average	Unemployment	Prior	Average	
		Week			Week		
March 30, 2013	375	21	352.50	3089	15	3072.50	2.4
April 6, 2013	348	-27	355.00	3076	-13	3075.50	2.4
April 13, 2013	353	5	357.50	3012	-64	3062.75	2.3
April 20, 2013	343	-10	354.75	3024	12	3050.25	2.3
April 27, 2013	332	-11	344.00	3011	-13	3030.75	2.3
May 4, 2013	332	0	340.00	3017	6	3016.00	2.3
May 11, 2013	355	23	340.50	2943	-74	2998.75	2.3
May 18, 2013	344	-11	340.75	2994	51	2991.25	2.3
May 25, 2013	350	6	345.25	2979	-15	2983.25	2.3
June 1, 2013	347	-3	349.00	2980	1	2974.00	2.3
June 8, 2013	337	-10	344.50	2975	-5	2982.00	2.3
June 15, 2013	352	15	346.50	2977	2	2977.75	2.3
June 22, 2013	345	-7	345.25	2959	-18	2972.75	2.3
June 29, 2013	344	-1	344.50	3003	44	2978.50	2.3
July 6, 2013	353	9	348.50	3079	76	3004.50	2.4
July 13, 2013	339	-14	345.25	2991	-88	3008.00	2.3
July 20, 2013	343	4	344.75	2950	-41	3005.75	2.3
July 27, 2013	333	-10	342.00	3001	51	3005.25	2.3
August 3, 2013	335	2	337.50	2963	-38	2976.25	2.3
August 10, 2013	329	-6	335.00	2981	18	2973.75	2.3
August 17, 2013	338	9	333.75	2981	0	2981.50	2.3
August 24, 2013	336	-2	334.50	2928	-53	2963.25	2.3
August 31, 2013	328	-8	332.75	2845	-83	2933.75	2.2
September 7, 2013	307	-21	327.25	2812	-33	2891.50	2.2
September 14, 2013	318	11	322.25	2847	35	2858.00	2.2
September 21, 2013	316	-2	317.25	2916	69	2855.00	2.2
September 28, 2013	318	2	314.75	2910	-6	2871.25	2.2
October 5, 2013	362	44	328.50	2888	-22	2890.25	2.2
October 12, 2013	355	-7	337.75	2881	-7	2898.75	2.2
October 19, 2013	347	-8	345.50	2896	15	2893.75	2.2
October 26, 2013	346	-1	352.50	2890	-6	2888.75	2.2
November 2, 2013	341	-5	347.25	2843	-47	2877.50	2.2
November 9, 2013	342	1	344.00	2889	46	2879.50	2.2
November 16, 2013	332	-10	340.25	2813	-76	2858.75	2.2
November 23, 2013	324	-8	334.75	2804	-9	2837.25	2.2
November 30, 2013	317	-7	328.75	2837	33	2835.75	2.2
December 7, 2013	358	41	332.75	2887	50	2835.25	2.2
December 14, 2013	368	10	341.75	2925	38	2863.25	2.2
December 21, 2013	339	-29	345.50	2840	-85	2872.25	2.2
December 28, 2013	344	5	352.25	2863	23	2878.75	2.2
January 4, 2014	333	-11	346.00	2945	82	2893.25	2.2
January 11, 2014	329	-4	336.25	2951	6	2899.75	2.3
January 18, 2014	334	5	335.00	2903	-48	2915.50	2.2
January 25, 2014	345	11	335.25	2915	12	2928.50	2.2
February 1, 2014	328	-17	334.00	2918	3	2921.75	2.2
February 8, 2014	343	15	337.50	2936	18	2918.00	2.2
February 15, 2014	330	-13	336.50	2941	5	2927.50	2.2
February 22, 2014	351	21	338.00	2890	-51	2921.25	2.2
March 1, 2014	325	-26	337.25	2850	-40	2904.25	2.2
March 8, 2014	319	-6	331.25	2869	19	2887.50	2.2
March 15, 2014	323	4	329.50	2814	-55	2855.75	2.1
March 22, 2014	310	-13	319.25	2838	24	2842.75	2.2
March 29, 2014	332	22	321.00	2776	-62	2824.25	2.1
April 5, 2014	300	-32	316.25				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended March 29								Insured Unemployment For Week Ended March 22				
INITIAL CLAIMS								INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT				
CHANGE FROM								CHANGE FROM				
STATE	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	STATE	(%) ²	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
Alabama	3667	273	-382	13	21	28291	1.6	-141	-2781	152	316	28759
Alaska	1335	37	-378	5	5	16362	5.2	-213	-582	269	105	16736
Arizona	5081	436	313	9	8	37920	1.6	-187	1838	355	303	38578
Arkansas	3402	860	371	6	8	24001	2.1	-787	-6007	147	240	24388
California	69971	17626	13861	255	352	534434	3.6	29869	-12710	3737	5045	543220
Colorado	2465	20	104	13	48	41090	1.8	-5130	-2662	511	1027	42628
Connecticut	3209	44	340	5	15	59311	3.7	-902	191	81	282	59674
Delaware	660	-15	-17	2	3	9286	2.3	-309	-1432	44	65	9396
District of Columbia	332	49	-365	5	0	10993	2.1	29	-167	400	29	11424
Florida	13694	95	2339	25	99	96519	1.3	-2959	-12177	365	900	97784
Georgia	7554	694	-903	31	83	48010	1.3	-96	-10950	381	878	49269
Hawaii	1700	141	286	7	24	10390	1.8	326	-672	124	245	10759
Idaho	1966	582	-157	8	6	13662	2.2	-1296	-3636	267	86	14015
Illinois	11428	941	-2753	18	41	192741	3.5	4726	2581	569	801	194111
Indiana	3660	-93	-2243	33	22	45532	1.6	-805	-8168	272	402	46215
Iowa	3641	606	1130	5	5	32261	2.2	-664	-4376	93	165	32519
Kansas	2049	-200	-1056	17	6	21524	1.7	-293	-5731	182	285	21991
Kentucky	4194	1119	-1608	38	21	32646	1.9	-606	-3645	250	666	33562
Louisiana	1985	-146	322	6	15	19599	1.1	-40	-3839	95	104	19798
Maine	1234	-33	-199	3	3	16997	3.0	-567	-1697	58	80	17135
Maryland	4043	-469	-1562	54	25	58349	2.5	-788	-2303	577	480	59408
Massachusetts	5504	-259	-140	8	21	103170	3.2	-3296	-7202	286	541	103997
Michigan	8226	854	-1451	18	41	115890	3.0	-5382	-1207	336	539	116765
Minnesota	4303	-22	-310	3	9	69907	2.7	-2020	-3552	207	324	70438
Mississippi	1819	-176	-352	11	29	17753	1.7	-908	-4705	167	146	18066
Missouri	5121	-889	-1586	17	21	46266	1.8	-2722	-9348	258	248	46772
Montana	999	-61	-123	19	7	13024	3.1	-1101	-1470	479	100	13603
Nebraska	1146	-152	-212	2	4	10561	1.2	-1980	-2579	38	34	10633
Nevada	2888	143	-1106	9	17	32034	2.8	-1357	-1349	255	250	32539
New Hampshire	792	-103	-150	2	1	9896	1.6	-211	-1360	8	21	9925
New Jersey	7633	-774	-4064	12	30	146249	3.9	712	5693	402	552	147222
New Mexico	1297	122	123	10	5	16378	2.2	-388	1425	284	181	16843
New York	18356	460	-2003	50	70	234240	2.8	-5604	-26621	952	1431	236623
North Carolina	4871	-69	-3517	11	56	61829	1.6	-1448	-31278	331	938	63098
North Dakota	235	-7	-207	1	1	5184	1.3	-245	-850	20	8	5212
Ohio	9048	1200	-1193	7	61	97612	2.0	-4140	-10500	216	733	98561
Oklahoma	1605	-25	-113	4	18	17492	1.2	264	-3108	100	213	17805
Oregon	6952	1851	-275	43	30	43524	2.7	-1483	-9828	757	373	44654
Pennsylvania	16841	-2007	-7379	88	72	189954	3.5	-19265	-13285	877	1362	192193
Puerto Rico	1846	-538	-90	2	13	31775	3.4	1921	-7692	151	457	32383
Rhode Island	928	-307	-471	6	1	15913	3.6	-642	-792	69	76	16058
South Carolina	2956	68	-687	3	31	23102	1.3	-562	-7539	85	256	23443
South Dakota	239	58	7	3	2	3452	0.9	-202	-488	49	7	3508
Tennessee	4430	769	-135	16	32	34758	1.3	-173	-9502	166	299	35223
Texas	14774	-1821	-42	53	227	157872	1.5	-2156	1773	838	3410	162128
Utah	1324	5	-122	10	5	15502	1.3	-926	-2714	265	114	15881
Vermont	566	-52	-122	1	1	7437	2.5	-166	-706	18	17	7472
Virgin Islands	33	-21	-18	0	0	896	2.3	-60	-316	6	2	904
Virginia	3964	-237	-593	17	31	41857	1.2	-1097	-6026	404	946	43207
Washington	7609	200	-1163	33	85	68620	2.4	-2515	-7108	755	1490	70867
West Virginia	1054	-30	-31	2	6	19295	2.8	71	892	101	129	19525
Wisconsin	9828	44	-2455	7	9	84312	3.1	-2900	-12284	193	233	84738
Wyoming	405	-1	-95	4	3	4993	1.8	-625	-1126	169	43	5205
Totals	294862	20790	-22632	1030	1749	3090665	2.4	-41439	-253677	18171	27977	3136860

Figures Appearing In columns showing Over-The-Week Changes reflect all revisions in data for prior week submitted by State agencies.

1. The Unemployment Compensation program for Federal Employees (UCFE) and the Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers (UCX) exclude claims filed jointly under other programs to avoid duplication.
2. Rate is not seasonally adjusted. The source of US total covered employment is BLS.

TECHNICAL NOTES

This news release presents the weekly unemployment insurance (UI) claims reported by each state's unemployment insurance program offices. These claims may be used for monitoring workload volume, assessing state program operations and for assessing labor market conditions. States initially report claims directly taken by the state liable for the benefit payments, regardless of where the claimant who filed the claim resided. These are the basis for the advance initial claims and continued claims reported each week. These data come from ETA 538, Advance Weekly Initial and Continued Claims Report. The following week initial claims and continued claims are revised based on a second reporting by states that reflect the claimants by state of residence. These data come from the ETA 539, Weekly Claims and Extended Benefits Trigger Data Report.

A. Initial Claims

An initial claim is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claimant requests a determination of basic eligibility for the UI program. When an initial claim is filed with a state, certain programmatic activities take place and these result in activity counts including the count of initial claims.

The count of U.S. initial claims for unemployment insurance is a leading economic indicator because it is an indication of emerging labor market conditions in the country. However, these are weekly administrative data which are difficult to seasonally adjust, making the series subject to some volatility.

B. Continued Weeks Claimed

A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment. Continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment.

The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. Continued claims reflect the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits in the nation. While continued claims are not a leading indicator (they roughly coincide with economic cycles at their peaks and lag at cycle troughs), they provide confirming evidence of the direction of the U.S. economy.

C. Seasonal Adjustments and Annual Revisions

Over the course of a year, the weekly changes in the levels of initial claims and continued claims undergo regularly occurring fluctuations. These fluctuations may result from seasonal changes in weather, major holidays, the opening and closing of schools, or other similar events. Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on the level of a series can be tempered by adjusting for regular seasonal variation. These adjustments make trend and cycle developments easier to spot.

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics provides the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) with a set of seasonal factors to apply to the unadjusted data during that year.

Concurrent with the implementation and release of the new seasonal factors, ETA incorporates revisions to the UI claims historical series caused by updates to the unadjusted data.

[Weekly Claims Archives](#)
[Weekly Claims Data](#)

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